GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2095
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2002
COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL DELIVERY SYSTEM
ALE NARENDRA

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee of experts was set up for studying the existing medical delivery system under ESI;

(b) if so, whether the committee has submitted its report

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be submitted?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN)

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. The Government constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Sathyam to revise the services provided in the ESI Hospitals/Dispensaries. The Committee submitted its report on 14.1.1999.

The short term recommendations of the Satyam Committee such as enhancing the ceiling on medical care for Insured Persons to Rs.600/-, issue of identity cards to insured persons, creation of posts in the medical scheme as per ESI norms, issue of common guidelines in respect of reference of cases to non-ESI institutions, enhancing of in-house capabilities to minimize referrals to other institutions, introduction of health record booklet for each beneficiary, preparation of list of formularies and rate contract, no specific reservation in favour of small scale industries sector for supply of medicines, quality control checks in purchase of medicines, penal action for supply of sub-standard drugs, purchase of medicines in strip packs, provision of medicines for supply by the hospitals or specialist clinics for minimum period, streamlining the purchase procedure with adequate delegation of powers, have been accepted.

The long term recommendations like parity in all respects with medical officers of ESI Scheme and their counterparts in the general health services, contractual arrangements for running ambulance services, cleaning, security, laundry, kitchen and maintenance of equipments etc. have been approved.

Recommendation such as grant of exemption in the event of both the employer and employees unanimously requesting for exemption, flow of funds from ESIC directly to the State Government ESI Schemes, privatization of hospital management, and introduction of IMF system are at different stages of examination for implementation.